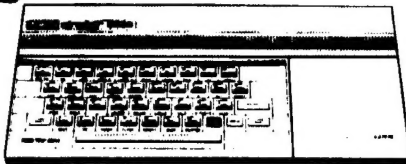


TIMELINEZ

VOLUME 4 ISSUE 12

DECEMBER 1985

\$1.00



THE JOINT NEWSLETTER OF THE THREE TIMEX-SINCLAIR
USER GROUPS IN THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA
** EBZUG PUG SVSTUG **

* * * * *
A M E R R Y C H R I S T M A S
A N D A H A P P Y N E W Y E A R
F R O M T I M E L I N E Z
* * * * *

MUSICAL CHRISTMAS WITH TS 2068

Oleg D. Jefimenko
17 Lakeview Drive
Morgantown, WV 26505

LET YOUR TS 2068 HELP YOU TO CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS. LET IT PLAY SOME CHRISTMAS MUSIC FOR YOU. THE PROGRAM PRESENTED HERE WILL TELL YOUR COMPUTER HOW TO PLAY THREE CHRISTMAS SONGS: THE LOVELY "SILENT NIGHT", THE JOYFUL "JINGLE BELLS", AND THE GLORIOUS "JOY TO THE WORLD". THE PROGRAM ALLOWS YOU TO SELECT ONE OF THE SONGS FOR PLAYING AND OFFERS A CHOICE OF THREE PLAY MODES: PLAY ONCE, REPEAT THE SONG, OR PLAY THE SONG CONTINUOUSLY.

SEE BACK PAGE FOR PROGRAM LISTING.

THE PROGRAM IS ADAPTED FROM AUTHOR'S BOOK "30 MUSIC PROGRAMS FOR TS2068". PUBLISHER'S ADDRESS:

P.O. BOX 4132,
Star City, WV 26505

PRICE: \$8 + \$1 s/h.

VU-FILE SPECIAL SELECTIVE PRINTING OF DATA FIELDS

by Walter Johnson

Vu-File is a Great Data Base program! Since I began using it everyday at my office in the hospital first on my T/S 1000 and now on my 2068, I have valued it speed, ease of use and virsitivity. And yet there was one frustrating limitation: YOU COULDN'T SELECT WHICH DATA FIELDS TO PRINT--(SO I THOUGHT).

Recently, when I wanted to send out a general mailing to all ministers and churches in my area (about 150) and print mailing labels, I dreaded the thought of

(Cont. on page 173)

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SUSTUG NEWS by Bill Miller

* Welcome to new SUSTUG members Mark Biery, J.W. Brackett, and Ted Clausen. Ted is looking for a FORTRAN compiler for his ZX81. Can anyone help him out?

* The 851126 SUSTUG meeting was attended by about 10 people.

Terry Greenlee reported on his experiences with an AT&T 7300 computer which he uses at work. He says this computer has a Motorola 68010 CPU and a 40 Megabyte hard disk. The operating system (UNIX), system utilities and user interface use about 12 Megabytes. He backs up his C files on an A&U microdrive on his TS2068 thru an RS-232 connection to the 7300!

Sy Stein reports he wants to see his TS1000 for Packet Radio. Is anyone else interested in this project?

John Schulein is interested in using his ZX81 as a controller to discharge Ni-Cad batteries to remove their 'memory' so they will take a full charge.

Doug Hoiles is waiting for CP/M for the AERCO disk drive but he doesn't think he wants to be the first to try it.

* Several people have reported that they do not understand how to send control codes to their full size printer thru the A&U Centronics style printer interface. Sending the codes is easy- getting the TS2068 to understand them is the hard part.

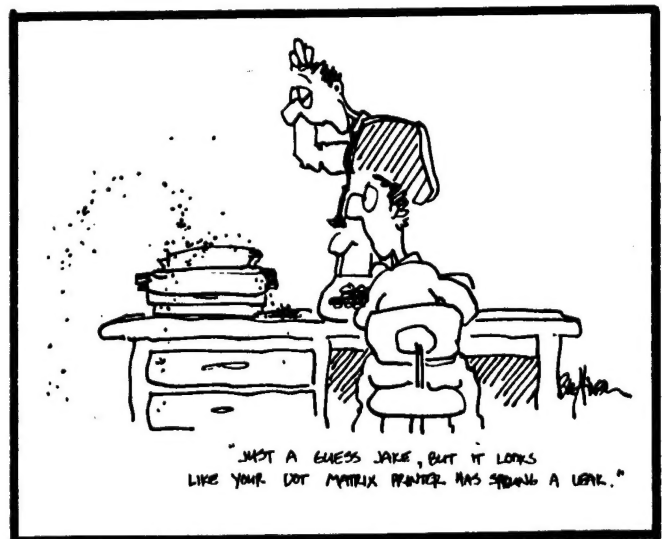
The sub routine listed below sets up an MX-80 to print mailing labels for the SUSTUG TIMELINEZ mailing.

```
785>POKE 26703,0: POKE 26704,5
: REM Change print stream to
: TS2040
790 RETURN
800 REM Set up printer driver
: for MX-80
810 PRINT USR 61443: REM Enable
: Printer Driver
820 POKE 61462,1: REM Recognize
: control codes
```

```
830 LPRINT CHR$(27)+"0": REM
: 8 Lines per inch
832 LPRINT CHR$(15): REM 132
: Characters per line
834 REM LPRINT CHR$(18): REM T
: urn off Compressed (132
: Characters per line)
840 POKE 61462,0: REM Recognize
: Keywords
850 POKE 61458,128: REM Line
: Length=128
860 POKE 61456,88: REM Page
: Length=88
870 POKE 61460,0: REM Form Feed
: Character=0
880 POKE 61465,0: REM Line
: Feeds=0
890 RETURN
```

EBZUG NEWS by Rick Link

(Editor's Note: Rick's column on East Bay activities will resume in the next issue.)



```
*****
*
* THIS SENTENCE WOULD BE SEVEN *
* WORDS LONG IF IT WERE SIX *
* WORDS SHORTER. *
*
*****
```

PUG NEWS

by George Mockridge

As usual, our last two meetings were attended by T/S enthusiasts displaying a wide variety of hardware and software. Norm Lehfeldt is getting better acquainted with his QL and showed some interesting demos. Jack Dohany has adapted a Radio Shack mouse for his 2068 and added a full sized (IBM) style keyboard complete with software. Jay Brockman has added the game of Cribbage to his EPROM cartridge collection and Pat Morrissey is working on a comparison of 2068 mass storage devices.

I have updated the TIMELINEZ index on UU File to include all the issues since 12/84. I will have a copy available at each meeting and when the tape is full, I will add it to the S/W library. Terry Greenlee has volunteered to take over the duties of S/W librarian for PUG and SUSTUG and he hopes to have a program list available soon.

The latest issue of Sinclair User (available at Sunset Electronics) has an interesting article on the launch of the Spectrum 128 in Spain. This new computer can be switched to run like a 48K Spectrum Plus or as a 128K Spectrum. It has a separate keypad attached by a springy cable, a reset switch, an RGB socket for monitors, a new sound chip, an RS232 socket and the standard wide port for other peripherals. It will sell in Spain for about £220 which translates to about £170 in the UK. Whether or not we will ever see it for sale in the U.S. is anybody's guess.

Another article in the same issue reports that Digital Research has been discussing the possibility of putting a version of the GEM operating system on the QL. The GEM system was originally developed for the new Atari ST68000 based computers. What would we do without rumors?

Finally, I have a book of \$1 off coupons for the Golden Gate Computer Expo on Dec. 14& 15 at the Oakland Coliseum. Send me a SASE and indicate the number of coupons you need. Don't forget about our December meeting on the 15th.

THE RAMBO RAM TEST

by Walt Gaby

ARE YOU THE ONLY KID ON THE BLOCK WITH A DEFECTIVE RAM CHIP? HERE'S A PROGRAM BY JAMES LOWRY TO FIND OUT!

THE PROGRAM POKES CODE 0 AT A STARTING ADDRESS AND THEN PEEKS AND CHECKS FOR CORRECTNESS. IT THEN POKES CODE 255, PEEKS AND CHECKS. THIS PROCESS IS REPEATED TO ADDRESS 65535 (ABOUT AS FAR AS ONE CAN GO!).

IF THERE IS A DEFECT AT ANY ADDRESS, IT SO INDICATES.

YOU MUST ELIMINATE THE PROGRAM ITSELF FROM THE TEST. AFTER TYPING IN THE PROGRAM, MAKE A DIRECT COMMAND:

```
PRINT PEEK 23653+256*PEEK 23654
```

SUBSTITUTE THE RESULTING ADDRESS (SOMETHING LIKE 27009) FOR THE 0 IN LINE 20 AND RUN.

```
10 REM      RAM TEST
20 FOR I=0 TO 65535
30 PRINT AT 10,13; I
40 POKE I,0
50 IF PEEK I<>0 THEN GO TO 100
60 POKE I,255
70 IF PEEK I<>255 THEN GO TO 1
20
80 NEXT I
90 STOP
100 LPRINT I;" IS DEFECTIVE HOLD
ING 0"
110 GO TO 60
120 LPRINT I;" IS DEFECTIVE HOLD
ING 255"
130 NEXT I
```

THE PROGRAM TAKES ABOUT 23 MINUTES AND 50 SECONDS TO COMPLETE THE TEST.

"PLANT A RADISH, GET A RADISH...
NOT A BRUSSELS SPROUT!
THAT'S WHY I LIKE VEGETABLES,
YOU KNOW WHAT THEY'RE ABOUT!"

THE FANTASTICKS

FROM THE SEPT. 85 CATS
N/L IN MARYLAND.

INTERNAL STOP-WATCH

In revising programs or comparing techniques I often use the System Variable FRAMES to measure elapsed time.

Near the start of the program temporarily insert:

```
9 POKE 23672,0:POKE 23673,0
```

That will reset the counters to 0. They will advance one unit per 1/60.1145 second.

Near the end of the program insert:

```
999 PRINT PEEK 23672 + 256*PEEK 23673.
```

For direct comparisons just note the number of units for each trial. If it is desired to measure directly in seconds, use:

```
999 PRINT INT((PEEK 23672 + 256*PEEK 23673 + .5)/60.1145 + .5)/100
```

This provides averaging, since the counter jumps in 16ms steps while the elapsed time is continuous. Then the result is rounded to two decimal places. It should be accurate to about .01 second.

H.E.Ueppler

ERROR: 23681 IS USED

The 2068 User Manual is in error on page 264 where it shows that memory location 23681 is "Not used".

Location 23681 is the MSB companion to 23680 and relates to the printer buffer. If 23681 is poked with anything other than 01 while the printer is in use the next line on the printer will be blank.

A safer place for temporary storage of a single byte is 23747.

H.E.Ueppler

FROM THE NOV. 85
ATLANTA T/S N/L.

2068 TIPS

By

Barry Henley

Ever wanted to remove the grid coordinates from your Vu-Calc print outs. Load Vu-Calc, exit to BASIC, and enter the program below.

```
2000 FOR p=2 TO 31
2010 PRINT AT 2,p;" "
2020 NEXT p
2030 FOR p=2 TO 20
2040 PRINT AT p,0;" "
2050 NEXT p
2100 COPY : BORDER 1: GOTO USR
    e3
```

Now save the modified program to tape. When ever you do a copy to the printer the coordinates will be removed first.

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Send this coupon to WJ Data Systems, 4 Butterfly Drive, Hauppauge, NY 11788. You will receive one free issue of QIS and we will bill you for a one year subscription. If you do not want to subscribe write cancel on the bill and keep your free issue.

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A SASE would be appreciated.

SINCLAIR'S SHARE OF UK
MARKET LEAPS BY 20%
FROM LeisureScope
Magazine, Oct. 85.

The rehabilitation of Sinclair Research proceeds apace, with an independent survey putting its share of the home market at 56.8 percent. The survey, carried out by Audits of Great Britain (AGB), reports Sinclair is selling twice as many micros as Commodore and Acorn, put together.

The figures were compiled for the four weeks ending 7 September, and show a 20 percent leap in Sinclair's share over the previous four weeks. AGB spokesman Adrian Spearman says they are based on total estimated sales of 57,000 micros under the £1000 mark. The Spectrum Plus accounts for the lion's

share, with 50.5 percent of the market, and the QL has 5.8 percent. Making up the difference, someone, somewhere, seems to have bought 285 ZX81s.

Spearman however points out that the figures apply mainly to August, when the home computer industry was still in its summer trough, and should therefore be treated with caution. The figures are also weighted towards the multiples, as AGB concedes that its presence in the independent computer stores is not as great as it should be.

Sinclair's marketing manager Alison Maguire says that the figures indicate that people are buying

computers in "much the same numbers as last year" and reiterates Sinclair's "total commitment to our current UK product line-up". So no 128s this Christmas, and perhaps an indication that Sinclair's own prediction of a total market of 1,000,000 units this year, against 1,400,000 last, could be a little on the conservative side.

Home micro sales are now almost wholly accounted for by Sinclair, Commodore, Acorn and Amstrad. Adrian Spearman won't elaborate on individual companies' market share, but says that only three or four companies hold shares of 5 percent or more.

Amstrad spokesman William Poel said he was surprised by the results of the survey, but that he found the results of competitors' surveys "about as interesting as reading as an Agatha Christie novel".

He thought it unlikely that Acorn would be outselling Amstrad in terms of units, but pointed to Amstrad's profitability (see page 16) as the true indication of the company's position.

"I'm delighted he (Sir Clive) is pleased with his current market position," he said, "and trust that he won't bother us too much in the next year either."

(Cont. from front page)

having to retype the whole list selecting just the name and address and leaving out the telephone numbers and notes.

I devised a simple way of manipulating the printer format without rewriting any of the program listing.

The basic principle of the solution is this:

WHEN SETTING THE DATA FIELDS IN THE PRINTER FORMAT, PLACE ALL UNWANTED DATA FIELDS ON ONE PRINT LINE AND THEN COVER WITH A LINE OF SPACES.

The step by step process.

1. When entering each file, fill the last data field with spaces all the way across the page.
2. Press C to get a screen copy. With a pen, note in order on the copy the number of each data field.
3. Press B to quit and from the menu, select "set printer format".
4. Design your printer format, (or leave blank if you don't want any fixed writing printed on every file.) Stop to exit. This will bring you to "Set Data Fields" See Note 8.
5. Decide which fields you want to print and where you want them printed. Move cursor to the desired position and set each field by pressing enter. (Make sure there is enough room on the line for the data field to fit.) Keep in mind the number of each data field in the order you set them.

ANY FIELD YOU DON'T WANT PRINTED, move with the cursor and set on a line that is to remain blank. (They can be set on top of each other.) Set the final data field (the one that will contain a whole row of empty spaces on each file page) on the same line that is to remain blank. This will, in effect, cover over any printing on this line.

Note 8 (From step 4)

If you want to control how many lines of text and empty lines are allocated for the printing of each file, put a period "." on the final line. The printer will then print the text and the empty lines up to the period and then go on to the next file. (I use the period to justify the start of each of my stick on labels--See example.)

Example of printing of all data:

First Presbyterian Church
1500 Easton Dr.
Burlingame, Ca. 94010
Phone: 342-0875
Rev. Paul Watermulder
Notes: Attended 1984 Clergy Day

First Baptist Church
1430 Palm Dr.
Burlingame, Ca 94010
Phone: 589-5528
Rev. Rae Holt & Mark Traylor
Notes: Wants to be notified of
all training programs.

Example of Printing of selected data on mailing labels.

Rev. Paul Watermulder
First Presbyterian Church
1500 Easton Dr.
Burlingame, Ca. 94010
(This is the blank line.)

Rev. Rae Holt & Mark Traylor
First Baptist Church
1430 Palm Dr.
Burlingame, Ca. 94010

Conclusion:

It's really great to have these labels neatly printed out all sorted and ready to stick on and mail.

It works fine on the 2040 printer. For stick on labels I use my Star 56-10 printer with Near Letter Quality Type style.

With home address and phone lists or club membership lists this works fine if you want to print a list of names and phones or a list of names and addresses from the same data file.

* This gubblick contains many *
* nonsklarkish English flutz- *
* pahs, but the overall plug- *
* gandisp can be glorked from *
* context. *
* *****

NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN TIMEX/SINCLAIR TELE-COMMUNICATIONS

The Tasword-Mterm II Connection:

Tasword and Mterm II have become the software of choice for word processing and tele-communications respectively, on the T/S-2068. It is now possible to fully utilize these excellent programs in conjunction with one another. You can write files in Tasword, transfer them to Mterm and send them around the world via telephone. You can also download any text file from the Mterm II buffer, save it and then load it into Tasword. In Tasword you can modify the file and resend it, or save it. Some of the utilities that make this possible are in the public domain. The names of these utilities are: "Bufferload", "CR.ERASE" and "Tasterm". A copyrighted utility named "Loader IV" that will do most of that plus add 20 phone numbers to the dialing menu, repeat dial and more, is available from Kurt Casby, 25 Battle Creek Court, St. Paul, MN 55119. The price is \$7.95.

Mterm II (FYI):

LOAD Mterm II, exit to basic, then ENTER (from the immediate mode): FOR X = 54066 TO 54088: POKE X,0: NEXT X (ENTER). This modification of Mterm II will allow you to exit to Basic and re-enter Mterm II without losing your phone numbers and macro key settings.

When saving Mterm II, if you use SAVE "mterm" CODE 54016,9216 (instead of 54016,7721), you will save your phone numbers along with Mterm.

In order to speed up the telephone dialing from within Mterm II, POKE the following into the Basic area and then re-SAVE your Mterm II program: POKE 54835,72: POKE 54836,4: POKE 54846,5: POKE 54847,3: POKE 54856,26: POKE 54857,44.

T/S-1000 and MINI XMOD ver. 1.5 (or later):

MINI XMOD is a T/S-1000 (1500, ZX81) program that enables you to upload and download programs and files on your T/S-1000 (or compatible). It uses Xmodem protocol to transfer the data. This protocol checks for errors during transmission and will re-transmit any "bad data" detected. This IS NOT a good terminal program, but as far as U/L and D/L is concerned, it works well. It is available from: Weymil Corp., P.O.Box 5904, Bellingham, WA 98227-5904. The price is \$20.00, including shipping.

NEXT MONTH: TIMEX AND BULLETIN
BOARD SYSTEMS (BBS).

Microdrive Adapter Board

Available From - The English Micro Connection
15 Kilburn Court
Newport, R.I. 02840
(401) 849-3805

Price - \$ 35.00 (PPD)

It is well known amongst the owners of the TS 2068, that the capability of using hardware peripherals designed for the U. K. Spectrum in most cases will not work. This is due to the fact that the signals on the rear edge connector are configured differently between the 2068 and Spectrum. Hence, thoughts of running ZX microdrives on the 2068 were rudely rejected.

However, through the efforts of many dedicated TS 2068 hardware "geniuses" a host of so-called "twistor" boards have appeared. These clever devices re-configure the 2068 signals to resemble the Spectrum output. In the earlier versions, incompatibility with some versions of Spectrum emulators existed when trying to run microdrives (most notably Spectrum ROM and Romswitch types). This minor problem was to be solved quickly. Now, most twistor boards available can accomodate any type of emulator.

In opting to buy ZX Microdrives instead of a disk drive system, I decided to purchase the Oliger microdrive adapter board (EMU-4) to interface the system with my 2068. The adapter board fits between the 2068 and Sinclair Interface 1 (this component is required to hook microdrives up). A nice feature of the design is the slight angling of the actual PC board once the female edge connector is plugged into the back of the computer. Why is this advantageous you might ask? The reason is, the Sinclair Interface 1 was designed to slip underneath of the Spectrum and thus its female edge connector is slightly elevated to accomodate for this. As the microdrive adaptor board sits, it is angled perfectly for easy attachment into the Interface 1.

The only drawback I personally see is the "bare" board itself. Other than a piece of protection tape covering the tracings, all other electronic components are exposed. So one must be careful not to spill or drop anything on it. Aside from that minor quirk, the board does exactly what its designed to do. I now have the Sinclair microdrives (which I will review in a later article) up and running like a charm. Furthermore, the expansion port of Interface 1 (located on back) is fully capable of being used to add on other Spectrum peripherals. Timex designed peripherals which I have also been successful in using are the Aerco Centronics Interface, and TS 2040 printer. Caution, the only device which I have currently been unable to use with the Interface 1 is the Westridge 2050 modem. Hopefully, one of the "geniuses" will figure this one too!

Well, thats it for now. Back to playing with my microdrive system (who needs disk drives anyway)!

Steve Ishii
Corresponding Member &
Member of the South Bay ZX Users
Group in Southern Calif.

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COMPUTER CALENDAR

D E C E M B E R 1 9 8 5

14 Golden Gate Computer Expo
& Oakland Coliseum 10 am - 5 pm
15 Oakland
Admission: \$5

15 Peninsula User Group 1:00
Peninsula Hospital
1783 El Camino Real
Burlingame

19 East Bay User Group 7:30
(One week earlier due to Christmas)
West Branch Library
1125 University Avenue
Berkeley

26 Silicon Valley User Group 7:00
Workshop
Great Western Savings
10250 S. De Anza Boulevard
Cupertino

31 Silicon Valley User Group 7:00
Regular Meeting
Cupertino Library
10400 Torre Avenue
Cupertino

J A N U A R Y 1 9 8 6

19 Peninsula User Group 1:00

23 East Bay User Group 7:30

29 Silicon Valley User Group 7:00

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PAYABLE TO: TIMELINEZ, P.O. BOX 1312, PACIFICA, CA. 94044.

MUSICAL CHRISTMAS WITH TS 2068

```

10 BORDER 4: PAPER 6: CLS : FO
R A=0 TO 12
20 PRINT INK 1;"CHRISTMAS MUSI
C";TAB 17; INK 3;"CHRISTMAS MUSI
C": NEXT A
30 PRINT AT 18,1; PAPER 5;"PRE
SS ""ENTER"" TO SELECT A SONG"
40 PAUSE 0
50 CLS : PRINT PAPER 5;"*****
TABLE OF CONTENTS *****": PRI
NT
60 FOR I=1 TO 3: RESTORE I+200
+800: READ N$: PRINT I;TAB 4;N$:
NEXT I
70 PRINT PAPER 5;AT 20,0;"ENTE
R THE NUMBER OF THE COMPOSITION
THAT YOU WANT TO PLAY"
80 INPUT N: CLS : LET Z$=""
90 RESTORE N+200+800: READ N$,
T
100 CLS : PRINT PAPER 5;"*****
*** NOW PLAYING *****";AT 2
1,0;"***** NOW PLAYING *****
*****"
110 PRINT AT 10,(31-LEN N$)/2;N
$
120 PRINT PAPER 3; INK 7;AT 20,
0;"TO STOP, PRESS ""SHIFT"" + ""
BREAK""
130 READ F,U: ON ERR GO TO 170
140 IF F<>99 THEN GO TO 160
150 PAUSE T/U+60: GO TO 130
160 BEEP T/U,F: GO TO 130
170 ON ERR RESET : IF Z$="2" TH
EN RESTORE N+200+810: GO TO 130
180 CLS : PAPER 7: PRINT AT 7,0
;"PRESS ""1"" TO PLAY AGAIN.
"
190 PRINT "PRESS ""2"" TO PLAY
CONTINUOUSLY.
"
200 PRINT ;"PRESS ""0"" TO PLAY
ANOTHER SONG.
"
210 PAPER 6

```

```

220 PAUSE 0: LET Z$=INKEY$: IF
Z$="1" OR Z$="2" THEN GO TO 90
230 IF Z$="0" THEN GO TO 50
1000 DATA "SILENT NIGHT",1.8
1010 DATA 7,8/3,9,8,7,4,4,4/3,7,
8/3,9,8,7,4,4,4/3,14,2,14,4,11,4
/3,12,2,12,4,7,4/3,9,2,9,4,12,8/
3,11,8,9,4,7,8/3
1020 DATA 9,8,7,4,4,4,4/3,9,2,9,4,
12,8/3,11,8,9,4,7,8/3,9,8,7,4,4,
4/3,14,2,14,4,17,4,14,4,11,4,12,
4/3,16,1,12,4
1030 DATA 7,4,4,4,7,4,5,4,2,4,0,
1
1200 DATA "JINGLE BELLS",.8
1210 DATA 13,4,13,4,13,4,99,4,13
,4,13,4,13,4,99,4,13,4,16,4,9,4,
11,4,13,4/3,99,4,14,4,14,4,14,4,
14,4,14,4,13,4
1220 DATA 13,4,99,4,13,4,11,4,11
,4,13,4,11,4,99,4,16,4,99,4,13,4
,13,4,13,4,99,4,13,4,13,4,13,4,9
9,4,13,4,16,4
1230 DATA 9,4,11,4,13,4/3,99,4,1
4,4,14,4,14,4,14,4,14,4,13,4,13,
4,99,4,16,4,16,4,14,4,11,4,9,4,9
9,4,21,4,99,4
1400 DATA "JOY TO THE WORLD",2.5
1410 DATA 24,4,23,5.33,21,16,19,
2.67,17,8,16,4,14,4,12,8/3,19,8,
21,2.67,21,8,23,2.67,23,8,24,2,9
9,16,24,8,24,8,23,8,21,8,19,8,19
,5.33
1420 DATA 17,16,16,8,24,8,24,8,2
3,8,21,8,19,8,19,5.33,17,16,16,8
,16,8,16,8,16,8,16,8,16,17,16
,19,16/5,99,16,17,16,16,16,14,8
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